

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S INTERVIEW WITH JACOBO
ZABLUDOVSKI FOR MEXICAN TELEVISION, 2/19/74

MEXICAN TELEVISION CHANNEL II AIRED INTERVIEW WITH
SECRETARY AT 11:00 PM FEBRUARY 19. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT
OF INTERVIEW AS FILMED IN DEPARTMENT SAME DAY:

BEGIN INTERVIEW: Q: WHY DID YOU SUGGEST THAT THE ENERGY
CRISIS AND THE WAR SITUATION BE DISCUSSED IN THE MEXICO
CITY CONFERENCE?

A: WE ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH A NEW PATTERN OF RELATION-
SHIPS WITH OUR FRIENDS IN LATIN AMERICA, WHICH IS THAT WE
CONSULT WITH THEM ON PROBLEMS OF COMMON CONCERN. NOW, I
HAVE BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY AND IN OTHER
DIPLOMACY. AND I THOUGHT THAT MY COLLEAGUES FROM THE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE MIGHT LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT SOME OF MY
ACTIVITIES, AND CONVERSELY I THOUGHT I COULD PROFIT FROM
THEIR VIEWS. SIMILARLY IN ENERGY. IT IS A BIG GLOBAL PRO-
BLEM. THE UNITED STATES CONSTANTLY HAS TO MAKE DECISIONS.

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AND AGAIN, I THOUGHT WITH ALL MY COLLEAGUES FROM THE

WESTERN HEMISPHERE ASSEMBLED, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL IF I PUT BEFORE THEM SOME OF OUR CONSIDERATIONS, AND AGAIN GET THEIR VIEWS BEFORE WE TAKE POSITIONS IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. WE DID NOT PUT IT FORWARD IN ORDER TO ASK THE OTHER

FOREIGN MINISTERS TO TAKE ANY POSITION, AND WE WILL NOT ASK THEM TO TAKE ANY POSITION. THIS IS TO START A NEW STYLE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP AND A NEW PATTERN OF CONSULTATION.

Q: IN THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S DOCUMENT ON ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES MAY BE DISCUSSED. WILL THE UNITED STATES SUPPORT THAT DOCUMENT?

A: OF COURSE, WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN THE FINAL DOCUMENT. IN MY SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SEPTEMBER, I EXPRESSED THE UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR THE CONCEPT. OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA IS WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH THE MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVE IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A REASONABLE SOLUTION THAT IS FAIR TO EVERY POINT OF VIEW. AND IF THE DISCUSSION GOES THE WAY WE HOPE, THEN I AM SURE THAT THERE WILL EMERGE A DOCUMENT THAT WILL GET SUPPORT.

Q: IN SOME OF YOUR NEXT TRIPS, DO YOU PLAN TO MAKE A STOP IN HAVANA?

A: I WILL GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST NEXT. AND THEN I WILL GO TO ACAPULCO, IF I EVER GET AWAY ON VACATION. I AM NOW AIMING FOR THE MIDDLE OF MARCH.

Q: DO YOU FORESEE DURING PRESIDENT NIXON'S ADMINISTRATION A CHANGE IN WASHINGTON-HAVANA RELATIONS?

A: THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN. THE FIRST THING WE NOW HAVE TO DO IS TO CHANGE AND IMPROVE THE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES, AND THEN WE CAN CONSIDER THAT PROBLEM.

Q: SOME PEOPLE CRITICIZE YOU BECAUSE THEY SAY YOU SOLVE UNCLASSIFIED

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THINGS IN A VERY PERSONAL WAY.

A: THE MAJOR PROBLEM IS HOW -- WHETHER TO GET THINGS SOLVED AND WHAT SHOULD BE DEBATED IS THE RESULT, NOT THE METHOD. I HAVE ESTABLISHED A RELATIONSHIP NOW WITH A NUMBER OF LEADERS AROUND THE WORLD WHICH HAS MADE IT MORE CONVENIENT TO SETTLE IT ON THAT BASIS. BUT WHAT WE SHOULD BE JUDGED BY IS THE RESULTS, NOT THE METHOD. BE-

SIDES, PERSONAL RELATIONS SHOULDN'T OFFEND LATINS.

Q: OH, NO, WE ARE NOT OFFENDED BY THAT. MAYBE THERE ARE SOME OTHER THINGS -- I DON'T KNOW. BUT NOT BY YOUR PERSONAL RELATIONS. WE ENJOY THAT.

A: THAT IS WHAT I THOUGHT.

Q: IN PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE MIDDLE EAST WAR, DO YOU EXPECT TO FOSTER A PERMANENT PEACEFUL AGREEMENT?

A: THE NEXT PROBLEM IS TO BRING ABOUT A SOLUTION OF THE ISRAELI-SYRIAN SEPARATION OF FORCES. THAT IS WHAT WE WILL NOW PUT OUR ENERGY ON. AND THAT WILL TAKE A LITTLE TIME. BUT I HOPE WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. BUT OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO GET A PERMANENT AND JUST PEACE.

Q: SOME PEOPLE FEEL THAT YOU ARE MORE POPULAR ABROAD AND IN YOUR COUNTRY THAN PRESIDENT NIXON. DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL --

A: FIRST, I DON'T AGREE WITH THAT CONCLUSION. AND SECONDLY, I DO MY JOB, AND I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT HOW PEOPLE INTERPRET IT.

Q: DOES THE WATERGATE SCANDAL MAKE MORE DIFFICULT TO HANDLE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS?

A: OH, I THINK THAT IT HAS TAKEN A LOT OF ATTENTION OF PEOPLE, AND IT HAS CREATED A CLIMATE WHERE THERE IS A LOT OF PRESS SPECULATION CONSTANTLY. SO IT HAS MADE IT MORE IRRITATING. BUT IT HAS NOT AFFECTED OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

Q: FINALLY, DR. KISSINGER, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE?

A: FIRST OF ALL WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO MEXICO FOR HOSTING THE CONFERENCE. AND WE THINK THAT IT IS A REALLY VERY MAJOR INITIATIVE. I PROPOSED A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND THE UNITED STATES, AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF COLOMBIA THEN CALLED A MEETING IN BOGOTA. WE ARE NEGOTIATING NOT FROM AN AMERICAN AGENDA, BUT FROM AN AGENDA THAT OUR FRIENDS HAVE PREPARED. I BELIEVE VERY STRONGLY THAT IF THERE IS GOING TO BE A WORLD COMMUNITY, WE FIRST HAVE TO HAVE A COMMUNITY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. IF WE CAN'T BUILD IT HERE, WE CAN'T BUILD IT ANYWHERE. SO WE ARE GOING DOWN THERE WITH A SERIOUS INTENTION OF STARTING A NEW RELATIONSHIP, AND TO DISCUSS OPENLY AND CANDIDLY WITH OUR

COLLEAGUES HOW WE CAN DO THOSE THINGS WE SHOULD DO TOGETHER, WITHOUT AFFECTING THE SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED OR THEIR ABILITY TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT POLICIES. SO I THINK IT COULD BE A HISTORIC MEETING. AND I THINK IT IS VERY APPROPRIATE THAT IT SHOULD MEET IN MEXICO, ESPECIALLY FOR ME, BECAUSE I HAVE SO MANY MEMORIES OF HAPPY VISITS THAT I HAVE HAD TO MEXICO.

Q: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS INTERVIEW FOR MEXICAN TELEVISION. END INTERVIEW. RUSH

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